AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A printer for printing [[as]] received print job data, comprising:

time count means for~~of means requiring~~

setting [[of]]a reference date and time, ~~and means for~~

measuring [[the]]an elapsed time since the setting of the reference date and time, ~~date and time at which the reference date and time were set and~~

adding the elapsed time to the reference date and time to obtain a printer current date and time, and

outputting the printer current date and time; ~~the date and time resulting from adding the measured elapsed time to the reference date and time as the current date and time~~;

allowable time storage means for storing an allowable time set by a user;

rewriteable nonvolatile information storage means;

event relevant information preparation means for preparing event relevant information comprising~~containing~~ the printer current date and time obtained from [[said]] the time count means each time an occurrence of [[one]]an event is detected, and

storing the event relevant information in [[said]]the information storage means; and

date and time adjustment means for ~~repeating~~executing a date and time setting process[[ing of]]comprising:

acquiring the printer current date and time from the time count means,

acquiring an external apparatus current date and time from an external apparatus, ~~each of an external apparatus having a function of outputting the current date and time and said time count means, and~~

setting the external apparatus current date and time ~~obtained from the external apparatus~~as the reference date and time in [[said]]the time count means ~~as the reference date and time~~,

determining a next date and time to execute the date and time setting process so that the difference between an expected date and time obtained from the external apparatus and an expected date and time obtained from the time count means is less than or equal to the allowable time, wherein the determination is based on the external apparatus current date and time, the printer current date and time, the elapsed time, and the allowable time~~whenever said date and time adjustment means executes the date and time setting processing, said date and time adjustment means for determining the next execution date and time of the date and time setting processing so that the possible difference between the expected current date and time which will be obtained from the external apparatus and the expected current date and time which will be obtained from said time count means at the next date and time setting processing execution time becomes equal to or less than the allowable time based on the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the elapsed time since the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing, and the allowable time stored in said information storage means~~.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The printer ~~according to~~of claim 1, [[said]]wherein the printer ~~having~~has a function of preparing printed matter comprised of several pieces of event relevant information stored in [[said]]the information storage means.

3. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

time count means ~~of means requiring~~for

setting [[of]]a reference date and time, ~~and means for~~

measuring [[the]]an elapsed time since the setting of the reference date and time, ~~date and time at which the reference date and time were set and~~

adding the elapsed time to the reference date and time to obtain an information processing apparatus current date and time, and

outputting the information processing apparatus current date and time ~~resulting from adding the measured elapsed time to the reference date and time as the current date and time~~;

allowable time storage means for storing an allowable time set by a user; and

date and time adjustment means for ~~repeating~~executing a date and time setting process[[ing of]]comprising:

acquiring the information processing apparatus current date and time from the time count means,

acquiring an external apparatus current date and time from an external apparatus, ~~each of an external apparatus having a function of outputting the current date and time and said time count means and~~

setting the external apparatus current date and time ~~obtained from the external apparatus~~as the reference date and time in [[said]]the time count means ~~as the reference date and time~~,

determining a next date and time to execute the date and time setting process so that the difference between an expected date and time obtained from the external apparatus and an expected date and time obtained from the time count means is less than or equal to the allowable time,

wherein the determination is based on the external apparatus current date and time, the information processing apparatus current date and time, the elapsed time, and the allowable time, and

the date and time setting process is executed at the next date and time.~~when said date and time adjustment means executes the date and time setting processing at the second time, said date and time adjustment means for determining the execution cycle of the date and time setting processing so that the possible difference between the expected current date and time which will be obtained from the external apparatus and the expected current date and time which will be obtained from said time count means at the next or later date and time setting processing execution time becomes equal to or less than the allowable time based on the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the~~

~~elapsed time since the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing, and the allowable time stored in said information storage means~~.

4. (Currently Amended) [[An]]The information processing apparatus ~~according to~~of claim 3, wherein the determination of the next date and time to execute the date and time setting process is determined so that the difference between the expected date and time obtained from the external apparatus and the expected date and time obtained from the time count means is equal to the allowable time, and the determination is based on the external apparatus current date and time, the information processing apparatus current date and time, the elapsed time, and the allowable time~~whenever said date and time adjustment means executes the date and time setting processing, said date and time adjustment means determines the next execution date and time of the date and time setting processing so that the possible difference between the expected current date and time which will be obtained from the external apparatus and the expected current date and time which will be obtained from said time count means at the next date and time setting processing execution time matches the allowable time based on the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the elapsed time since the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing, and the allowable time stored in said information storage means~~.

5. (Currently Amended) [[An]]The information processing apparatus ~~according to~~of claim 3 further comprising:

rewritable nonvolatile information storage means; and

event relevant information preparation means for preparing event relevant information ~~containing~~comprising the information processing apparatus current date and time obtained from [[said]]the time count means each time an occurrence of a predetermined event is detected, and

storing the event relevant information in [[said]]the information storage means,

wherein ~~when executing the date and time setting processing, said~~ the date and time adjustment means sets a last execution date and time indicating when the date and

time setting process was last executed to the external apparatus current date and time, wherein the last execution date and time is stored in the information storage means as part of the event relevant information~~also adjusts each current date and time indicating the date and time after the previous execution date and time of the date-and-time setting processing in the current date and time stored in said information storage means as an element of the event relevant information to the current date and time in the external apparatus by performing calculation processing using the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the previous execution date and time of the date-and-time setting processing, and the elapsed time since the previous execution date and time~~.

6. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

time count means ~~of means requiring~~for

setting [[of]]a reference date and time, ~~and means for~~

measuring [[the]]an elapsed time since the setting of the reference date and time, ~~date and time at which the reference date and time were set and~~

adding the elapsed time to the reference date and time to obtain an information processing apparatus current date and time, and

outputting the information processing apparatus current date and ~~time resulting from adding the measured elapsed time to the reference date and time as the current date and time~~;

allowable time storage means for storing an allowable time set by a user; and

date and time adjustment means for ~~repeating~~executing a date and time setting process[[ing of]]comprising:

acquiring the information processing apparatus current date and time from the time count means,

acquiring an external apparatus current date and time from an external apparatus, ~~each of an external apparatus having a function of outputting the current date and time and said time count means and~~

setting the external apparatus current date and time ~~obtained from the external apparatus~~as the reference date and time in [[said]]the time count means ~~as the reference date and time~~,

determining a next date and time to execute the date and time setting process so that the difference between an expected date and time obtained from the external apparatus and an expected date and time obtained from the time count means is less than or equal to the allowable time,

wherein the determination is based on the external apparatus current date and time, the information processing apparatus current date and time, the elapsed time, and the allowable time~~whenever said date and time adjustment means executes the date and time setting processing, said date and time adjustment means for determining the next execution date and time of the date and time setting processing so that the possible difference between the expected current date and time which will be obtained from the external apparatus and the expected current date and time which will be obtained from said time count means at the next date and time setting processing execution time becomes equal to or less than the allowable time based on the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the elapsed time since the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing, and the allowable time stored in said information storage means~~.

7. (Currently Amended) [[An]]The information processing apparatus ~~according to~~of claim 6, wherein the determination of the next date and time to execute the date and time setting process is determined so that the difference between the expected date and time obtained from the external apparatus and the expected date and time obtained from the time count means is equal to the allowable time, and the determination is based on the external apparatus current date and time, the information processing apparatus current date and time, the elapsed time, and the allowable time~~whenever said date and time adjustment means executes the date and time setting processing, said date and time adjustment means determines the next execution date and time of the date and time setting processing so that the possible difference between the expected current date and time~~

~~which will be obtained from the external apparatus and the expected current date and time which will be obtained from said time count means at the next date and time setting processing execution time matches the allow able time based on the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the elapsed time since the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing, and the allowable time stored in said information storage means~~.

8. (Currently Amended) [[An]]The information processing apparatus ~~according to~~of claim 6 further comprising:

rewritable nonvolatile information storage means; and

event relevant information preparation means for preparing event relevant information ~~containing~~comprising the information processing apparatus current date and time obtained from [[said]]the time count means each time an occurrence of a predetermined event is detected, and

storing the event relevant information in [[said]]the information storage means,

wherein ~~when executing the date and time setting processing, said~~the date and time adjustment means sets a last execution date and time indicating when the date and time setting process was last executed to the external apparatus current date and time, and the last execution date and time is stored in the information storage means as part of the event relevant information ~~also adjusts each current date and time indicating the date and time after the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing in the current date and time stored in said information storage means as an element of the event relevant information to the current date and time in the external apparatus by performing calculation processing using the current date and time obtained from the external apparatus, the current date and time obtained from said time count means, the previous execution date and time of the date and time setting processing, and the elapsed time since the previous execution date and time~~.